

# THE SOUTHWESTER

A Monthly Non-Profit Publication of the Southwest Community Council

November 1996 SERVING SOUTHWEST, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Free



Balloon-making for the students.



Face Painting proved to be a success for all.

The U. S. Attorney's Office, in a partnership with Amidon Elementary School, put on a picnic and fair for the students. Balloons were fashioned into swords, there was face painting and popcorn-making. Lots of food and play filled the afternoon.



Children doing what comes naturally - having a good time.

## COUNCIL MEMBER JACK EVANS SPONSORS MEETING ON THE STATE OF HOUSING IN SOUTHWEST

On September 18 the community turned out to hear David Gilmore, Receiver for the D.C. Housing Authority, and his staff report on progress to date on the renovation work in Southwest. They announced that the preparatory work of tearing down canopies, eliminating hiding places, enlarging yard space, roofing, lights and bars on homes is almost done and improvement of occupied Greenleaf homes on I Street will be completed by the end of October with Delaware units to be completed in four months. The rews will then move on to James Creek and Syphax with all work concluding by next summer.

Robert White, Director of Safety of D.C. Housing Authority, announced that 25 officers will be trained to work in the housing areas during 1996 and more will be added in the following two years. The housing officers are working in pairs and rotating shifts. Mr. Winston Hill was introduced by Mr. Gilmore as the trained manager for Greenleaf. Bill Knox, Director of Operations explained Operation Reclaim in which the condition of every single unit of

Greenleaf will be checked and recertification of all residents will take place. New doors will be installed on each unit with new locks and keys.

Resident Council Presidents, Mrs. Phyllis Martin of James Creek Apartments, Bobbie McMahon of Greenleaf Gardens Addition/Extensions, Mary Sessums of Greenleaf Seniors, Callena Williams of Syphax Gardens, and Judy Jones of Greenleaf Gardens brought numerous questions to the Housing Authority Receivers. The problems of rats, trash collection, maintenance and water damage, managers, screening of residents and security were all raised as well as questions about when the renovations will be done in other areas. Questions from the floor included observations that improvements in housing without job training and other opportunities were short sighted. Mr. Bob Firth, Construction Manager, took information about all complaints of immediately needed repairs in areas other than Greenleaf with the promise they would receive prompt attention. Thanks was expressed to the receiver and his staff.

## EPA TO MOVE TO FEDERAL TRIANGLE BY 2000

It is estimated that the 4500 people who work in the EPA Towers in SW will gradually cease to be weekday lunch-eaters and shoppers in Waterside Mall. Some 700 workers have already moved to their new location and the rest will be moving in groups as their new work stations are completed. By the year 2000, it is expected that the EPA offices now in Crystal City and in our Southwest Mall will be together in the Federal Triangle complex.

The agency will occupy space in three buildings: the Areil Rios Building, the Customs wing of the Interstate Commerce Commission and the newly built Ronald Reagan Building. The outside of this building is completed and the inside is now being finished.

According to Susan Laing of EPA, who is very involved in planning for the new quarters, the involvement of EPA in planning for the new building has brought many innovative and "state of the art" features to safeguard the health and well-being of the employees. For the first time, procurement standards

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### SWNA Meeting

The October meeting of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, SWNA will be a joint meeting co-sponsored with the ANC. It will be a Candidate's Forum. It will be on Monday, October 28, 1996 at St. Matthew's Church, 3rd & M St. at 7:00 p.m.. Come and hear what the candidates for the ANC, as well as the DC Council, School Board, DC delegate, U.S. senator and representative have to say.



## SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY CALENDAR

(October - November 1996)

- Oct. 25 Monday:** SWNA/ANC Candidates Forum 7 p.m. St. Matthew's Lutheran Church 222 M Street Southwest
- Nov 4 Monday:** Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Board, 6:30 p.m. Southeastern University 501 I Street Southwest
- Nov 12 Tuesday:** First District Citizen's Advisory Council, 7:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church 400 I Street Southwest
- Nov 20 Wednesday:** AARP SW Waterfront Chapter #4751 Noon, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 222 M Street Southwest Southeastern University Community Health Fair, 3-7 p.m., 6th & I Sts., Southwest
- Nov 21 Thursday:** NARFE Chapter 2052, 1:30 p.m., Southwest Branch Library, Wesley Place & K Street Southwest
- Nov 21 Thursday:** Zoning Commission Hearings on Buzzard Point Zoning, 7 p.m., Office of Zoning Hearing Room #41, 4th Street Northwest, Suite 220
- Nov 25 Monday:** Anthony Williams, chief financial officer will speak at Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, 7 p.m., St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 222 M Street Southwest
- Nov 25 Monday:** Zoning Commission Hearings on Buzzard Point Zoning, 7 p.m., Office of Zoning Hearing Room, 441 4th Street Northwest, Suite 220

Please submit calendar items to C. Hargrave (202) 554-8284

## ANITA PEREZ FERGUSON: Giving a Voice to Women

by Thelma D. Jones

A few years ago, Anita Perez Ferguson came to Washington as director of training and education for the Democratic National Convention. This move helped to position her in becoming one of the most influential women in the nation who had a direct impact on preparing women nationwide for elected and appointed office at all levels of government. Ferguson, who possesses a wealth of political savvy, personal charm and professional credibility, is now the president of the National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC) here in Washington, D.C. NWPC, founded in 1971, is a national, grassroots organization dedicated to increasing the number of women in elected and appointed office at all levels of the government, regardless of party affiliation.

Born and raised in Montebello, California, a suburb of Los Angeles, Ferguson holds a BA in Communications and an MA in Counseling Psychology and a MA in Management. Ferguson has traveled extensively for academic and research purposes in Latin America, Israel, Egypt and other parts of Africa. In addition, she has served as a guest lecturer at the University of Spain in Madrid.



Anita Perez Ferguson

Professionally, Ferguson has held positions in education and public policy, including Director of Admissions at Westmont College; Administrator at Daystar University in Nairobi, Kenya; and Planning Commissioner for the city of Santa Barbara, CA. In addition, in 1990 and 1992 she was a congressional candidate for the 19th District (Ventura/Santa Barbara).

Ferguson was elected NWPC's president in 1995 after serving as its vice president where she was trainer for women candidates. As president, she feels that her greatest personal accomplishment has been her commitment to sustain the organization's mission to identify, train and support women candidates. Professionally, she has made efforts to diversify their membership and the women who are being encouraged to run for office.

Ferguson feels that it's important for women to hold office because "NWPC's research indicates that the lack of women in elected positions does make a difference in the type of public policy which is developed by a legislative body." She cites examples such as issues of health care, education and community safety as areas where more attention is given when more women are present in a decision-making group whether it is a school board or the U.S. Senate. Interestingly, "political party does not make a consistent difference in the perspective of women office holders," according to Ferguson. "Their personal experiences as employees, mothers and daughters seem to have a lasting influence on their public policy perspective."

NWPC's reputation of having some of the best political skills training is reflected by the large number of participants it attracts. Since 1995, NWPC has trained over 2,500 women. In addition, more than 50,000 women participate in the caucus activities each year which has helped to forge alliances among many non-partisan groups. Ferguson attributes the NWPC's success to the techniques of campaign training which is simply practical and adaptable and highly inclusive. "We begin our course with information on how to decide to run for public office and teach our candidates everything they need to know right through election day."

Ferguson is not only focusing on NWPC's existing needs but she is also focusing on its sustainability. Her vision for NWPC's is "in addition to expanding our programs to more women of color, I would like to have the NWPC train more young women and girls in school. We develop our self image in our early years and I know many girls need encouragement to see themselves as leaders."

Ferguson and her spouse Bill, who is Associate Director of the National Association for Community Mediation, have a son who now lives in Santa Cruz, California. She and Bill reside in Southwest and are both active members of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church and supporters of community efforts. Southwest is honored and proud to have a dynamic woman who knows how to talk the talk and walk the walk!

## THE EPA MOVES

(continued from page 1)

were based on environmental and human considerations, not only on price and technical considerations.

There will be windows that open, most workers will have outside light and attention will be paid to maximum efficient and healthful lighting. Seating and desks will be ergonomically correct. Copy rooms will be well ventilated and all furniture and finishes will be tested for noxious fumes. The mechanical systems will be tested and maintained for maximum air quality. There will be sensors to reduce energy consumption. Plumbing will be low-flow to conserve water and energy. Double floors will allow cables and wiring to be out of sight.

The southwest neighborhood has a big stake in what will become of our Mall. Watch *The Southwester* for further stories about the EPA move.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ms. Early:

Thanks for your article on cleaning up our neighborhood. If we do not have pride in where we live, we do not have pride in ourselves. I was struck by the hypocritical nature of Councilman Jack Evans' office contribution. Each year a plague of political posters appears in the neighborhood. Those for the Councilman are particularly egregious in their density, every light post, and location, high up so they cannot be removed by those of us interested in a clean neighborhood. I suggest that in the future if the Councilman's office wants to help out in keeping our neighborhood clean, they start by removing the signs that they feel free to place throughout the neighborhood and limit the time they are up and their density.

Ed Kleppinger

## THE SOUTHWESTER

EDITOR AND MANAGER:  
Carole Early 488-3355

### SWNA STAFF:

Dr. Beryl Rice	Rev. Jeanne MacKenzie
Jerry Blasenstien	C.W. Hargrave
Dale MacIver	Yolonda Earl
Kimberly Zellars	Katy Davis

Drop off your stories by Nov. 6, 1996, in the box behind the counter at the SW Library, 3rd & I SW, or mail to:  
The Southwester, P.O. Box 70131,  
Washington, D.C. 20024.

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### The objective of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, a.k.a. SWNA is:

to improve the quality of life for all residents of the Southwest; to open to every Southwest resident the wide cultural horizon of modern urban living; to help create rich and equal social, educational and economic opportunities for every boy and girl of the Southwest; to assist in providing the opportunity for gainful employment for every adult resident; to promote development of the aesthetic potential of the Southwest. These objectives shall be pursued without regard to the social, economic and racial barriers that have divided cities in the past.

*Southwest Community Council, Inc.  
Balance Sheet  
December 31, 1995  
(Unaudited)*

**Assets****Cash in Banks:**

Washington Federal Savings Bank- Operating Checking Account	\$ 3,981.40
Washington Federal Savings Bank- Certificate of Deposit	32,283.66
NationsBank- Operating Checking Account	17,167.72
NationsBank- Certificate of Deposit	4,054.11
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$57,486.89</u></b>

**Liabilities & Fund Balance**

Liabilities	\$ -0-
Fund Balance	57,486.89
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Fund Balance</b>	<b><u>\$57,486.89</u></b>

<i>Southwest Community Council, Inc. Statement of Fund Balance, Receipts &amp; Disbursements For Period January 1, 1995 thru December 31, 1995 (Unaudited)</i>			
	<i>Fund Balance 1/1/95</i>	<i>Receipts January thru December 1995</i>	<i>Disbursements January thru December 1995</i>
			<i>Fund Balance 12/31/95</i>
<b>Fund:</b>			
General Fund- Management & General	11,872.60	2,459.94	
Fund Raising			3,388.57
			750.00
			9,193.97
Scholarship Fund	5,698.15	11,768.11	14,070.00
			3,396.26
Youth: Activities	36,881.75	4,990.00	5,015.17
Task Force			
			36,856.58
Boys & Girls Club		3,825.00	4,180.00
			(355.00)
Southwester	8,041.75	11,449.65	12,674.93
			6,816.47
Coalition	58.70		
			58.70
Crime & Drugs	1,519.91		
			1,519.91
<b>Total</b>	<b>64,072.86</b>	<b>34,492.70</b>	<b>41,078.67</b>
			<b>57,486.89</b>
<i>Southwest Community Council, Inc. Financial Statements Reviewed by: The Hawkins Financial Services Group 301 G Street, NW Suite 821 Washington, DC 20001-3125</i>			

this shows how the different task forces which are a part of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, SWNA are doing. The Southwest Community Council is the fiduciary arm of SWNA. The treasurer is Lonnie Murray and the assistant Treasurer is Bob Listow.

**SENATE DRY CLEANERS**

IN THE WATERSIDE MALL  
488-9018

- TAILORING AND ALTERATIONS  
DONE ON PREMISES
- SHOE REPAIRS WHILE-U-WAIT
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SHIRTS
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**Buck Morning Times**

psst! Star Bucks coffee, CBS' Sunday Morning and the NY Times available 9-10:30 on Sun.mornings at Riverside Church, 680 I St., SW., 554-4330

# RE-ELECT JACK EVANS

WARD 2 CITY COUNCIL

## The Evans Vision

*Our City government cannot provide everything ... but it must provide the basics.*

You deserve fully staffed, well-equipped and well-managed police and fire departments. Our children deserve first-rate public schools. Our residents, businesses and visitors deserve well-maintained, safe neighborhoods and effective city services. I hope you believe I deserve another term on the City Council and will join me in advocating these priorities.

*Jack Evans*  
Jack Evans

**Tough PUBLIC SAFETY  
Strong PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Reliable PUBLIC WORKS**

Photo by Laura Patterson

*"Our neighborhoods are Ward 2's greatest asset — we must strengthen and protect them."*

The Evans Record

- Sought enforcement of zoning laws to balance residential interests, commercial development and social service needs
- Authored and passed numerous laws to combat littering
- Led successful efforts to strengthen and extend rent controls

*"City services should not suffer because of mismanaged bureaucracies."*

The Evans Record

- Ensured prompt and consistent payment to AIDS service providers and strengthened the City's needle exchange program
- Active in restoration of Ward 2 parks and playgrounds; secured renovation of streets, sidewalks and bridges
- Active in restoration of Volta, Hardy and Rose recreation centers; secured renovation of M and Q Streets and Wisconsin Avenue
- Led efforts to increase the number of solid waste collectors and inspectors

*"Keeping and attracting new businesses and residents is key to financial security."*

The Evans Record

- Pioneered efforts to launch a new sports arena, convention center and opera house
- Led repeated successful efforts to repeal residential property taxes
- Authored law to freeze D.C. income tax and supported federal flat tax proposal

## Evans' endorsements include:

- Fire Fighters Association of D.C.
- Fraternal Order of Police
- Gertrude Stein Democratic Club
- Hotel Association of Washington
- Hotel & Restaurant Employees, Local 25, AFL-CIO
- Medical Society of D.C.
- Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington
- Sierra Club/New Columbia Chapter
- Ward 2 Democrats
- As in 1992, awarded the highest rating of any candidate by the Gay & Lesbian Activists Alliance

## And read what *The Intowner* has to say:

*"Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans is a voice of rationality . . . one of the few on the council who seriously analyzes the issues and offers knowledgeable solutions designed to enhance the city's economic base and its deteriorated quality of life. He's become a leader of a few who have had the temerity to ask the hard questions, and, in the process, has brought some others along with him. He's smart as a whip; we need more like him."*

August, 1996

*"We need to clearly articulate what we can and cannot afford. We must look for bold and innovative reforms."*

The Evans Record

- Pioneered efforts to prioritize government spending and cut D.C. government payroll
- Advocated elimination of D.C. School of Law and streamlining of UDC
- Proposed new management structures for D.C. General Hospital, Lorton Correctional Facility and Blue Plains Sewage Treatment Plant

*"Our government must ensure personal security for all citizens."*

The Evans Record

- Fought successfully for extra police details, neighborhood substations and fire company units
- Advocates consistently for a fully-staffed police force of 4,500 officers
- Strengthened the City's response to anti-Gay and Lesbian violence
- Worked at length to ensure passage and implementation of anti-panhandling laws
- Authored and led passage of anti-prostitution laws and created task force to monitor implementation

**Join with your neighbors  
and friends in supporting  
Jack Evans. Call 638-0202.**

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Jack Evans,  
Gregory McCarthy, Treasurer

# GENERAL ELECTION: NOV 5

# Fitness

by Joe Majors

In the mid 60's, the Surgeon General put a warning on a pack of cigarettes that changed the way the American public viewed smoking. The warning stated that smoking is hazardous to your health and could cause diseases such as emphysema or cancer. The warnings effect was far reaching.

This coupled with the millions of dollars worth of advertising from organizations such as the federal government and the American Cancer Society created not only an awareness of the harmful effects of Tobacco, but a tremendous decrease in the consumption of the product by over 50 million people.

The Surgeon General's office has been busy again with a report that may have as far reaching effects as the tobacco warning. In May of this year, the Surgeon General released the report that lack of physical activity is detrimental to your health. Many experts feel that this report will be as effective in its promotion as the Surgeon General's report on smoking. There are some compelling facts to support the notion that the inactivity warning will be as widely received as the smoking warning:

- There have been 250,000 people who have suffered premature deaths annually due to lack of activity. This is approximately the same number who will die prematurely from smoking a pack of cigarettes a day.
- The federal government is going to spend 10 million dollars in advertising getting out the word on inactivity.
- The billion dollar health and fitness industry is putting millions of dollars behind the report in an attempt to promote their businesses.
- The cost of health care continues to rise; the prevention of poor health is a great deal less expensive.

John McCarthy, the executive director of the International Health, Racquet and Sports club Association (IHRSA), states, "In the past, too little attention has been paid to the public health menace presented by our increasingly sedentary society. As of this past May that has changed."

McCarthy went on to say, "The entire May issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association* focused on the Surgeon General's Report, analyzing its implications for medical practice. The publication of the report was picked up by every television station and major newspaper. This will do for exercise what the smoking report did for smoking cessation."

All this is great but the obvious questions is "What does this mean for me?"

If you are a sedentary person (someone who is overweight or does not exercise) you can, with a little effort, lose weight, lower cholesterol, lower your risk of death due to coronary disease, and decrease your chance of depression.

The problem for most people is the "little effort" part of that statement. What exactly is a little effort? The American College of Sports Medicine writes that raising the level of your heart rate for 30 minutes three times per week will increase a person's fitness.

Exercise and raising a heart rate can be done in a number of ways without joining a fancy health club. Walking briskly is the simplest way to elevate the beat of the heart. This activity can be done anywhere, anytime, with any one. The key to the activity is to do the activity.

There are a number of books and magazines that give you numerous ways to elevate your heart rate. Magazines such as *Walking*, *Fitness*, *Men's Fitness*, and *Runners World* will give you the tools to live a healthy lifestyle. The information is available and normally easily accessed.

An exercise program is easy to get involved in. If you are a bit apprehensive concerning working out, don't be. Millions of Americans have very little experience about the correct way to get healthy. There are quite a few outlets that a person can tap into for programs in fitness.

In Southwest Washington, there are a number of health clubs and YMCAs that will help any motivated individual to get on an exercise program. The best way to choose which club or program is best for you is to do some shopping. This will give you an opportunity to compare.

The majority of health clubs will give you a free trial to use the facility. This is when to compare the competent staffing, amount of equipment, cost, and fitness programs that suit your needs. If the sales person is giving a hard sell approach, Beware. The membership advisor should tell you what cost options you have, as well as outline how you will reach your goal.

IHRSA is an excellent resource for finding a quality health club that suits anyone's needs. Since IHRSA is an independent non for profit trade association of fitness clubs it has no allegiance to any one club or company and will help find the club that is best for the person. The toll free number is 1-(800)-766-1278.

It is now clear that the medical profession, through the surgeon general, has concluded that if you do nothing, you will turn into nothing. There are various ways to become active. So, in the words of a famous shoe manufacturer "Just do it!"

## Southeastern University Invites the Community to Upcoming Events

Health and wellness is what Southeastern University wishes for its students and the Southwest Community! In that spirit, Southeastern welcomes the community to its second annual Health Fair. The University's second annual Health Fair will take place Wednesday, November 20, 1996 from 3:00 pm-7:00pm in The Commons area. Information will be provided by the Whitman-Walker Clinic, Loew's Fitness and Health, DC General Hospital, the American Lung Association, the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society. The University is located at 501 I Street, SW, at the corner of 6th and I streets.

## Free Workshop at the YWCA

The YWCA of the National Capital Area is offering free training to women interested in non-traditional careers. Preparation for high paying jobs in the areas of: construction, computer repair, commercial driving, carpentry, and electronics. They offer: physical career guidance, physical fitness training, tool identification/hands on experience, support from experienced tradeswomen, job placement assistance. Attend a free workshop at 624 - 9th Street, N.W., 2nd Floor Conference Room, Washington, DC 20001 on To reserve your seat for the workshop or for more information about the Non-Traditional Employment for Women Program, call: (202) 628-5672 ext. 326

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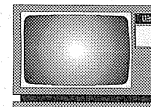
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## Buck Morning Times

so I don't have to miss a pensive morning of coffee, the NY Times and Charles Osgood? Really? And worship is intelligent and warm? Hmm. Where is this?



## COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE SCHEDULED

Rev. Ruth Hamilton 4th & I--The Southwest Ministerial Association invites Southwest citizens to a community Thanksgiving Eve Service at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 27, 1996, at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, the white brick church on the corner of 4th and I (across from Amidon School). The hour long service will include participation by the Rev. John Talbott (St. Augustine's), Father Joe Del Vecchio (St. Vincent's), Rev. Esther Holimon (Christ United Methodist), Mr. Rick Bardach (Southwest Community House), and Revs. Brian and Ruth Hamilton (Westminster Presbyterian). Mrs. Zandra Earl (Friendship Baptist) will provide special music. Prayers, scriptures, a brief meditation and familiar hymns, such as "America the Beautiful", will help participants prepare for the nation's annual Thanksgiving celebration. Community church members will be bringing pies and cakes for the reception at 8:00 p.m. following the service. A freewill offering as well as an offering of canned goods will help to replenish the Southwest Community House Food Bank for the Christmas season. Please bring one or more cans of vegetables, fruit, or meat (tuna, stew, chili, etc.). Childcare will be provided. Parking is available in the church lot off Mackemie Place.

## Second Baptist Church - Scholarship Committee

by Vernice E. Howard, Chairperson

The Scholarship Committee of Second Baptist Church, S.W., cordially invites you to attend a "mini" college day at the Southwest Library on Tuesday, November 12 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Approximately 20 schools and four financial institutions will be represented.

For more information, call 554-0868. Members include: Ms. Vernice E. Howard, Ms. Natalie Desmond, Mr. Gilbert Ford, Ms. Louise Hall, Ms. Lynda Lake, Ms. Letitia Nedab, Mr. Homer Newton, and Ms. Mary Smith.

## JAZZ VESPERS

Sunday, November 3, 1996, 5 o'clock PM at Christ United Methodist Church, 900 4th Street, Southwest, Washington, DC 20024, Esther M. Holimon, Minister. Featuring Ron Elliston and Friends with Ronnie Wells, Dick Smith and Paul Carr. Come Fill Your Hearts and Souls with Music. Adults - \$15.00; Children under 12 - \$5.00. Reception immediately following the Vespers. Producer: M.B. Twitty. For additional information contact M.B. Twitty, phone (202) 488-0698.

**Jewish services (which  
formerly were held at Fort  
McNair) will be at Bolling AFB  
in the chapel at 6:00 pm  
every Friday night.**

## Interview With Reverend Esther M. Holimon of Christ United Methodist Church

by Betty Fleischman

Attracted by the beauty of Washington, D.C., Reverend Esther M. Holimon, a native of New York City, celebrated the beginning of her fifth year as pastor of Christ United Methodist Church in July 1996.

Reverend Holimon brings a background rich in multi-cultural and multi-ethnic experiences, from both the educational and business fields. She was trained at Hampton University and employed in New York City as a classroom teacher and a speech therapist. Her work with students ranged from Kindergarten through Grade 12. In speech therapy work she was assigned to Catholic, Yeshiva, Lutheran and Special Educational schools.

Fascinated by the beautiful architecture in our nation's capitol and anxious for new challenges, Reverend Holimon moved to Washington, D.C. in 1976. For eight years she worked for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and attended Howard University Divinity School's evening classes. In this period, she lived at 201 I Street S.W. and became a member of Christ United Methodist Church.

In 1984 she was ordained an Elder in the United Methodist Church. Her first position was as Pastor to the Ames Methodist Church in rural Bel Air, Maryland. Then she was assigned to Metropolitan Memorial in the District of Columbia as the Minister of Programs. She also served at St. Paul in Chevy Chase.

Christ United Methodist has organized outreach programs to help the Southwest Community. Among them is a food program that brings 400 sandwiches each month to the homeless at Randall Shelter. Christ United Methodist houses the La Rue Before and After School Center, the D.C. Lambda Squares and the Stamp Club. In the spring of '96, the Men's Club adopted ten students from Amidon Elementary into a male role mentoring program to guide these students.

The soaring walls of Christ United Methodist's sanctuary reflect the aspirations of the ministry and members to achieve a community of peace and brotherhood. "Christ Church Penetrating The World" is the theme of the contemporary mosaic mural designed by artist Odell Prather. This colorful mosaic which adorns the altar portrays both church and government guided by spiritual values in our 20th century.

Reverend Esther Holimon's delivery of her sermons and her subject matter are relevant to today's fast changing world and are very helpful to many people who are passing through changes in their lives. She expressed her personal and pastoral concerns about the upcoming closing of St. Elizabeth's Hospital. This will seriously aggravate the growing numbers of our city's population in need of psychiatric help. She was enthusiastic about our community's response to the Southwest spring clean-up.

Reverend Holimon is married to Elliott C. Moffitt. They have a three-year old son, Evan.

Christ United Methodist is located at Fourth and Eye Streets in Southwest. For further information call the church office, (202) 554-9117.



## SWNA Saves Receipts for Neighborhood Schools

For the past several years, SWNA has collected Safeway and Giant receipts. The two stores have similar programs, "Tapes for Education". In Southwest that translates into - Neighbors saving their receipts and donating them to specific schools or collecting them and dropping them off at the library so that the SWNA can make a disbursement to each of the three schools in the immediate neighborhood. All that residents of this area need to do is to bring their store tapes to the circulation desk at the SW Branch Library where there is a box marked "Safeway & Giant Tapes." Mr. Charles Szoradi has volunteered to collect the tapes. Before the end of the drive, he will divide the tapes & give them to the schools. Last year, hundreds of dollars were collected during this drive. Help by donating your tapes to SWNA.

**Don't be a "couch potato", get  
out and vote on Nov. 5**

## Dr. Vesta D. McDowell PODIATRISTS - SURGEON

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## Southwest Community Gets 'Neighbors Who Care'

By Yolonda D. Earl

On Wednesday October 9th, seven people met at Friendship Baptist Church to explore the possibility of developing a chapter of Neighbors Who Care in the Southwest area. Neighbors Who Care (NWC) is a victim's assistance ministry that mobilizes and equips local churches to provide practical assistance to victims of crime. NWC is a subsidiary of Prison Fellowship who after 17 years of ministering to prisoners, ex-prisoners and their families in this country and throughout the world felt led of the Lord to direct some of its energies and resources to those violated by the criminals they attempted to lead to the Lord.

This came about because in spite of the apparent affluence, the diligent police protection and the security in the mall and residential buildings the southwest community is not exempt from the crime plague that is sweeping the nation. Every day residents of southwest find themselves victimized by criminal acts from purse snatching to homicide, but now there's an opportunity to get involved in a positive response to crime.

The following stories illustrates how NWC provides practical assistance to crime victims:

"On behalf of the Greenwood Village Police Department and the Victims assistance program, I would like to express my appreciation for the gift and food coupons you donated to one of our assault vic-

(Continued on page 10)

## HOW TO BECOME A FOSTER PARENT

Currently, the District of Columbia Child and Family Services is seeking dedicated, committed and resourceful individuals to become foster parents. Although there is a need for foster parents for youths of all ages, there is a particular need for foster parents for teenagers, teenagers and their babies and boarder babies. By becoming a foster parent, you will have the opportunity to provide a temporary, substitute family life in which a child can function socially and physically, grow and develop. In addition, the process of becoming a foster parent is easier than imagined.

After contacting the Child and Family Services' Foster Home Recruitment and Retention Program, you will be presented with:

- (1) GENERAL REQUIREMENTS - which includes:
  - a) Age - must be 21 or over
  - b) Income - must be sufficient to meet your existing family and household needs
  - c) Living Space - can be a house or apartment

After the orientation session you will be given the opportunity to enroll in an educational and informative five-week (5) parenting training class. To further assist you in the process, support groups, readings and associations are available.

For more information on HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE in a child's life, call (202) 727-3161.

## FOSTER CARE ORIENTATION

The District of Columbia Child and Family Services will discuss steps to becoming a foster parent on: Saturday, November 9, 1996 10:00am - 1:00pm, 509 H Street, N.E., Multi-Purpose Conference Room 3rd Floor. Please call (202) 727-3161 to register or for more information.



## Helen T. Smackum(Cradle) February 9, 1913 - December 20, 1995

Helen Smackum, S.W. resident since 1941, passed after a short term illness.

She was an active member of the community until she was rendered homebound. Nevertheless, she remained informed and relied on her telephone to maintain contact with those in need of advice and assistance.

There are many people who viewed my grandmother as a mainstay in the community. It is my honor, on her behalf, to extend an official "fond farewell" with sincere gratitude to those whose lives she impacted and the lives of those who touched her: to her neighbors on First Street, the Southwest House and surrounding vicinity; to her St. Vincent de Paul Church family, the neighboring parishes of St. Dominic's and St. Peter's and the organizations of all; to the S.W. Clinic, the Senior Citizens of Arthur Capper, 605 M St, U.P.O. and to the Distribution staff of the Southwester.

## My Last Request

Please don't say that I gave up  
just say that I gave in;  
don't say I lost the battle  
for it was God's war to win;  
please don't say how good I was  
but that I did my best;  
just say I tried to do what was right  
to give what I could not less;  
please don't give me wings or halos  
that's for God to do;  
I want no more than I deserve  
no extras, just my due;  
please don't give me flowers  
or talk in sympathetic tones;  
don't be concerned about me now  
I'm well with God, I'm Home;  
don't talk about what could have been  
it's over now, it's done, the battle has been won;  
when you draw a picture of me  
don't draw me as a saint;  
I've done some good, I've done some wrong  
so use your choice of paints;  
not just the bright and light tones  
some gray and dark ones too;  
in fact, throw away the canvas  
painting me in your heart will do;  
don't just remember the good times  
but remember too the bad;  
for life is full of many things  
some happy and some sad;  
but if you must do something  
then I have one last request;  
forgive me any wrongs I've done  
and with the love that's left;  
strive towards a great community  
always give it your best;  
weep no longer of my passing  
praise God who loved me best.

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**WEEKDAYS: 7:30 pm, 8:00, 8:20, and 12:10 pm**  
**SATURDAY: 8:20 am and 12:10 pm.**

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~10:30AM First Sunday--Morning Prayer  
Second Sunday--Hymn Sing  
Third Sunday--Healing Service  
Fourth Sunday--Fellowship  
~11:00AM Worship

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**Buck Morning Times**... a really good way to begin your week and juggle those hats. **Riverside Church**, 680 I St/554-4330 (parking available). Michael Bledsoe, Ph.D., pastor.

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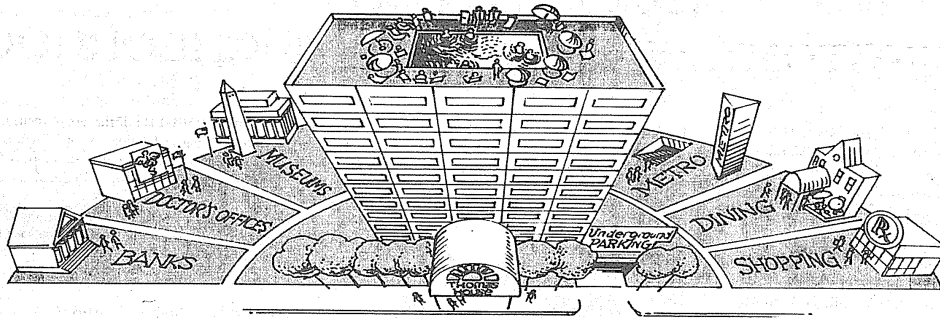
Unit No./ Address	List Price	Project Name	BR	FB	List Agent Last Name
N508 1301 DELAWARE AVE AV	\$16,500	RIVER PARK		1	CATHY CORMACK
515 1301 DELAWARE AVE SW	\$19,900	RIVER PARK		1	SANDRA HANBURY
S128 520 N ST ST SW	\$22,989	HARBOUR SQUARE		1	GRANT GRIFFITH
N-805 1301 DELAWARE AVE S	\$29,000	RIVER PARK MUTUA			DIANE ANDERSON
N104 1301 DELAWARE AVE SW	\$29,000	RIVER PARK	1	1	HAROLD SANDERS
E 240 M ST ST SW	\$32,000	CARROLLSBURG		1	HOPE CULLEN
N410 430 M ST SW	\$32,000	TIBER ISLAND	0	1	JOHN PARKER
W204 490 M ST SW	\$44,000	TIBER ISLAND	1	1	JOHN PARKER
E-702 240 M ST SW	\$45,000	CARROLLSBURG		1	CATHY CORMACK
S-738 1311 D DELAWARE AVE	\$47,900	RIVER PARK	2	2	CATHY CORMACK
W307 490 M ST SW	\$49,900	TIBER ISLAND	1	1	JOHN PARKER
S-126 1311 DELAWARE AVE S	\$52,000	RIVER PARK	2	3	CATHY CORMACK
N226 510 N ST ST SW	\$55,000	HARBOUR SQUARE	1	1	ANGELA GRIMMER
112 P ST SW	\$65,000		2	2	RIDEOUT/MILLER
N511 430 M ST SW	\$89,000	TIBER ISLAND	2	2	JOHN PARKER
810 700 7TH ST ST SW	\$94,000	TOWN SQUARE	1	1	MARYANN HARTNETT
514 1250 4TH ST ST SW	\$99,500	CARROLLSBURG	2	1	LOUISE JENNINGS
106 610 3RD ST ST SW	\$108,000	CAPITOL PARK IV	2	2	HAROLD SANDERS
B111 1435 4TH ST ST SW	\$115,000	RIVERSIDE	2	2	GRANT GRIFFITH
N-404 430 M STREET SW	\$115,900	TIBER ISLAND	2	2	CATHY CORMACK
225 227 G ST SW	\$119,000	CAPITOL PARK IV	3	2	HAROLD SANDERS
142 206 G ST SW	\$119,000	CAPITOL PARK IV	3	2	HAROLD SANDERS
811 811 DELAWARE AVE SW	\$128,811	CAPITOL PARK	2	2	BLACKBURN
812 700 7TH ST ST SW	\$129,900	TOWN SQUARE	1	1	MARYANN HARTNETT
445 N ST SW	\$139,000	TIBER ISLAND	2	2	JOHN PARKER
508 G ST SW	\$179,900		3	2	DOROTHY SIMMONS
514 G ST SW	\$179,900		3	2	DOROTHY SIMMONS
408 N ST SW	\$199,000	HARBOUR SQUARE	4	3	SANDRA HANBURY

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2D02 Charles W. Hargrave  
George Holmes  
2D03 (No candidates on ballot)  
2D04 Linda Eckles  
John Jordan  
2D05 (No candidate on ballot)  
2D06 Gloria Hamilton

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Roger Moffatt Rep.  
Jack Evans Dem.

### AT-LARGE MEMBER OF THE D.C. COUNCIL

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Ernest Brooks	Independent
James Baxter II	Ind.
Carol Schwartz	Rep.
Don Folden, Sr.	Ind.
Valencia Mohammed	Ind.
Samuel Jordan	D.C. Statehood
Harold Brazil	Dem.
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### DELEGATE TO U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Faith	Ind.
Eleanor Holmes Norton	Dem.
Sprague Simonds	Rep.
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### U.S. SENATOR

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## River Park's Oral History Project

*adapted from an article by Judy Bellin in the River Park newsletter*

THE RIVER PARK ORAL HISTORY PROJECT conceived about two years ago, was established to preserve and analyze the aspirations of those who moved to the "new Southwest" in the early to mid-1960's and those who lived there before. The constituent group, headed by co-chairs Keith Melder (a historian) and Coralie Farlee (a sociologist), developed its purposes and applied for the seed grant provided by the Humanities Council of D.C. The Project's initial goals was to interview at least 20-25 early RP members to establish their motives and hopes in moving there.

On October 2 the Project held a meeting to report to the Southwest neighborhood. Held at St. Matthews, and chaired by Coralie Farlee, it was attended by several dozen people. About half were from the larger community: the SW Neighborhood Assembly, including its chair, ANC 2D, S.W. Community House, and residents of Harbour Square, Carrollburg and Capitol Park. Carole Kolker, a researcher on the history of S.W. in the 1920's briefly addressed the audience. Also in attendance was Sally Gifford, representing the Humanities Council of D.C.

DOROTHY CASON told us what it felt like to pioneer, in 1963, in the new S.W. Margaret Feldman briefly reviewed some of Southwest's early history. There is evidence that Native Americans fished here and gathered on Buzzards Point for councils. In the early days what is now Southwest really was an island bounded by Tiber Creek, James Creek and the Anacostia. At the turn of the century, Jewish, Irish, and Italian immigrants settled in Southwest.

CORALIE FARLEY said this meeting was to report on the first oral history interviews with 25 charter members of River Park.

KEITH MELDER summarized the impressions so far gained from these interviews. The Project found that most came to River Park because it provided excellent housing at modest prices in an exceptional location near museums, the waterfront, parks, and federal employment. Most were liberal in politics, and favorably viewed life in a multi-cultural community. Some of the original River Parkers had a strong drive for community involvement: many helped in the formation of the SW Neighborhood Assembly still a vibrant community glue!

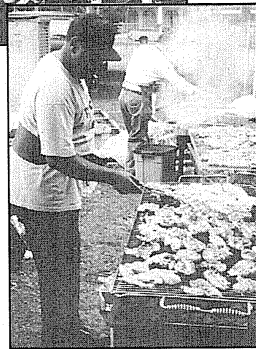
Many River Parkers enthusiastically participated in the myriad social and community outreach activities of River Park. Keith characterized River Park at that time as a "dynamic participatory community."

Melder said community building is hard work. It is not clear whether the River Park experiment in participatory democracy can be a model: perhaps so, but it is doubtful, he feels that it could be applied to the District at large.

Many useful comments were raised by the audience. These related to possible changes in racial diversity since River Park's founding; whether the Project intends to interview those who lived in SW before the urban renewal; methods of selecting the interviewees and possibly resultant skewing of conclusions; the possibility and usefulness of creating an archive of the Project's materials accessible to SW at large, and to high school students in particular; and broadening the interview pool to include residents of different demography, e.g., long-time residents of St. James and Channel Square.

## Peer Mediation Recognition Ceremony at Jefferson

The U.S. Attorney General, Janet Reno, was the honored guest at Jefferson Junior High School's swearing-in ceremony in recognition of "Violence Prevention Month" for the month of October. Jefferson currently has 21 trained Peer Mediators who are qualified to assist students with resolving conflicts.

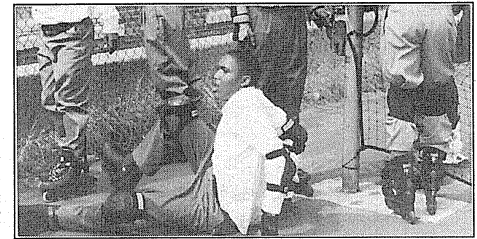


*Comsat put on a big picnic and field day for Jefferson Jr. students. These photos by Mr. Gyles show the cooking, eating, in-line skating and discoing at the event.*

## Jefferson Jr. Receiving Out-of-Boundary Applications

All Jefferson students living outside the boundaries for Jefferson Jr. have to reapply each year to keep attending. Sixth graders wishing to start at Jefferson next September and living out-of-boundary must apply at the school too.

Deadline for applying is December 15, with the principal's decisions to be announced by February 15, 1997, rather than in June as in the past.



## Neighbors Who Care

*(Continued from page 7)*

food coupons you donated to one of our assault victims on Christmas day. Neighbors Who Care was there when we needed them, and we are grateful for your assistance."

—William R. Kohnke, Chief of Police

"The day of our break in I think was the worst day of my life. At first I didn't even know that we had been broken into. Then when I realized what had happened I was so angry. I felt as if I had been raped and invaded. They had looked in my drawers and seen things that they shouldn't have seen. They had seen everything in my house without me showing them. I still feel the same way.

Neighbors Who Care volunteers understood the way I felt and tried to help me deal with my feelings. They were kind and understanding. They also called to see how I was doing about two weeks after all this had happened. I appreciated what they were doing for me and I thank everyone who called to see how I was doing."

—A Letter from a Colorado Victim

When Allan was paralyzed by a gunshot, Neighbors Who Care volunteers in Denver, Colorado helped build a wheelchair ramp for him so he could enter his own home. Later volunteers brought by a covered dish supper so that he and his grandmother could celebrate his homecoming from the hospital.

*All names of victims have been changed.*

Watch for future issues of the Southwester for further developments of the SW chapter of Neighbors Who Care.

Upcoming meeting: Wednesday, Nov. 6th, please RSVP (202) 554-8682.



## Happy Thanksgiving

# S.W. COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS GROW OVER THE YEARS

In the 22 years that Southwest neighbors have been helping S.W. college students pay their college costs, there has been a vast increase in the number of students, as well as the amount of aid.

A 1980 Southwester story tells of 7 students sharing a total of \$1,300. By contrast in 1995 19 students received grants ranging from \$300 to \$1,000 and one student continued at Hampton University on a \$5,000 a year scholarship from the Design Center which is located on C St. S.W.

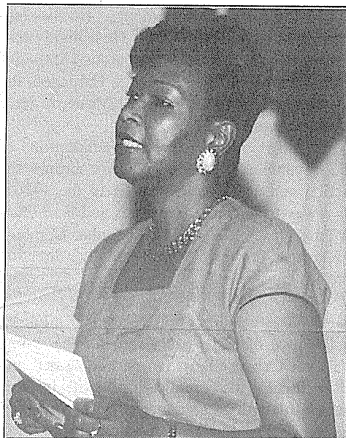
In 1996, 23 S.W. students are being helped. Checks in the amount of \$9,000 were mailed out to the recipients in the beginning of October.

The following pictures from the S.W. Scholarship Archives are of the 1991 Reception.

1. scholarship Recipients posing on a lovely summer day



2. Former S.W. Scholarship chair, Francine Vinson



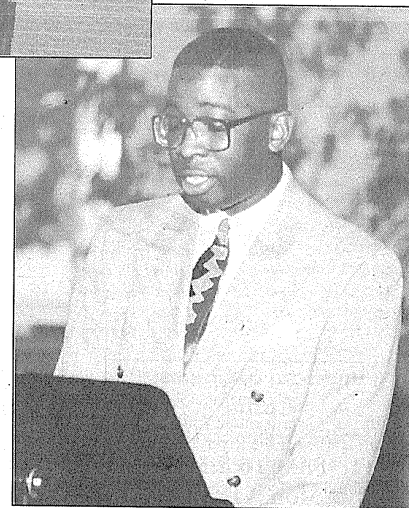
3. Master of Ceremonies - Sergio A. rozelle



4. Darryl Holt receiving his award



5. Anita Sands-Nunez sharing her talent



6. Former SWNA President, David Brewer

## Housing Police Visit Greenleaf Gardens

Occasional visits to the Greenleaf Gardens public housing complex between Eye St. S.W. and M St S.W. are being made by a new police force set up by the city exclusively for public housing. They will supplement the work of the Metropolitan Police.

Green posters were put on trees and posts warning of the penalties for dealing in drugs in that area.

Another Item on the Police Front: Community Oriented Policing Project is being discussed and Inspector Broadbent hopes to give us more information in the next issue.

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## Learning Tree of Greater Washington



Five of ten hard working students.

On July 8, 1996, The Learning Tree of Greater Washington (LToGW) began at Southeastern University, 501 I St., S.W. They are LToGW's principle partner in the Washington, D.C. area.

The Learning Tree is a non-profit, community-based education and support program which prepares inner-city youth for higher education. They work with inner-city youth who have dropped out of school, prepares them for the GED, SAT, and academic and social readiness for higher education. They also serve high school graduates who are unprepared academically or socially for successful advancement to higher education. They provide GED and SAT Preparation, test fees, assistance with finding money for college studies, college and career guidance, etc.

With broad support from individuals and several

national and community-based groups, LToGW will continue to serve youth coming from some of the Districts most devastated neighborhoods.

All interested in the Learning Tree of Greater Washington should call Erich Smith at (202) 298-1422. Their second semester started October 2, 1996 at Southeastern University. A new semester will begin in January 1997.

The following is a weekly schedule.

Monday-Wednesday (9am-3pm)

College prep studies at Southeastern University  
Focus: Math, Science, English, Social Studies, and

Contemporary Issues

Thursday-Friday (9am-3pm)

Cultural, Social and Arts Studies

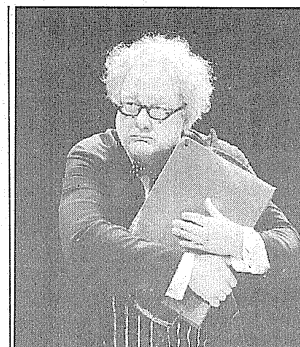
Focus: Health Studies, Mentorship, career & social readiness, cultural & artistic exposure, and research.

Most of these activities will take place at the following venues:

- a. Smithsonian Museums
- b. Community health clinics
- c. MLK Library & Library of Congress
- d. Capital Hill Arts Workshop

## The Miser

By Wallace Babington



He doesn't trust banks. He keeps his money in a box buried in the garden. He lives only to acquire and keep his money. His house is wired for surveillance. Chairs are

chained to the floor with an alarm system set to blare forth at a moment's notice. He derives happiness, pleasure and comfort only from money. He flies into a rage if he has to pay for anything. He is highly critical of the moral bankruptcy of those around him. But sees no such flaw in himself. Such is Harpagon, the grotesque comic demon, the miser of Moliere's farce now at Arena Stage.

John Strand's translation and adaptation of Moliere's seventeenth century comedy brings the play's action and comic convolutions to the 1980's. He finds a way to include the savings and loan scandal, Star Trek, Nancy Reagan and Madonna. Combine a witty, hilarious script with Kyle Donnelly's direction and the result is an evening of high-spirited, exuberant comedy.

Moliere's farce centers around Harpagon's hidden fortune, the love of his two children for the wrong people, illegal Cuban aliens, families separated and reunited - you name the complication and it's inserted somewhere. But with great humor, remarkable choreography and stage business, costumes that defy description and Spanish accents never heard on any continent. All of it adds up to a wonderful evening of great fun. It's more Strand and Donnelly than Moliere - but it works well.

Henry Strozier plays the pivotal role of Harpagon with a high degree of skill and flair. The play's action is anchored in his character. And he serves it well. Wonderful and inventive supporting performances are given by all cast members. But Franchelle Stewart Dorn and J. Fred Shiffman deserve special recognition. They stop the show with creative and ingenious interpretations of their characters.

It is relatively easy to play this kind of farcical comedy with broad strokes, characters running aimlessly about, falling over each other. But much more difficult to create a comedy of substance and meaning - even if that substance is borne of hysteria. It is this kind of comedy that director Donnelly has created for Arena's production.

The Miser is at Arena Stage through November 10.

Our next issue will be our Holiday Issue. Deadline for articles will be Wednesday, November 6 and ads are due by Friday, Nov. 8.

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